

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
May 8, 2015

Clewiston Recreation and East Recreation Summer Camps are currently open for registration for the 1st and 2nd sessions. Registration must be completed by May 22nd and final/full payment must be made by June 1st. Please check www.clewistonrecreation.com for registration information and how to take advantage of the 50% discount for Summer Camp! Please call the Youth Center at 983-1492 if you have any questions.

REMINDER - Please do not place anything but recyclable materials in the recycle bins located around town. Contaminated loads go the landfill and our recycling efforts are wasted. Please DO NOT use the recycle sites as a “dump”. It is unsightly, unclean, and possibly dangerous. City and County staff are working on a “curb side” recycling program and residents will be required to recycle at home. Federal mandate is that by 2020, the State of Florida will reduce by 80% the amount of material going to landfills.

Dates to Remember:

May 14, 2015 – City Commission Workshop

May 18, 2015 – City Commission Meeting and Budget Workshop

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- The Git ‘N Split, located at 505 East Sugarland Hwy., is under new ownership who have no plans to make changes.
- As stated in previous FYI’s, we have been experiencing an increase of inquiries about the new floodplain maps that are effective on July 6th! Some residents may have received their letter from their lending institution advising them of upcoming changes and requirements of flood insurance.
- This week, we have the 2nd common term used by FEMA to aid understanding flood insurance and flood map changes in our city:
 - **Base Flood Elevation** - The computed elevation to which floodwater is anticipated to rise during the base flood. Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and on the flood profiles. The BFE is the regulatory requirement for the elevation or flood proofing of structures. The relationship between the BFE and a structure's elevation determines the flood insurance premium.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The State Library of Florida will host its annual State Library Directors’ Academy and conference in Orlando next week. The Clewiston Library Director will be one of the presenters in the Academy.

- The 2nd annual Clewiston Library Summer School will begin June 8, 2015 and run through July 2, 2015. Call the library at 863-983-1493 to register your grade 2 – 5 child/ren. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided free of cost.
- Library staff attended the annual regional all staff day training in Fort Myers, along with staff from the LaBelle and Harlem Libraries. It was a very rewarding time, with classes covering topics affecting customer services, changes in the library as a result of technological changes, and skills building techniques for effectiveness.
- If you see a man working in the Library, including at the front desk, don't panic. He is legit! This is Mr. Melvin Rainey who is being sponsored by the Career Source of South Florida to work with us for possibly 6 months. Please help us welcome him.
- We are still on target to get e-books sponsored by the South West Florida Library Network (SWFLN) to the tune of \$10,000.00.

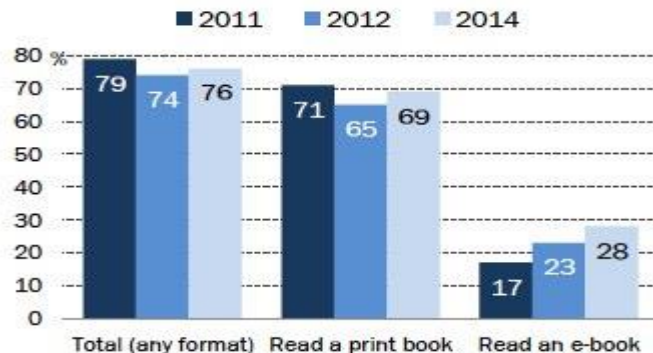
Did You Know?



Library Facts

Most adults read a book in the past year; print remains most popular, but e-reading is on the rise

Among American adults 18 and older, the % who read at least one book (in total, in print, or as an e-book) in the past year



* "Total" also includes those who listen to audio books (not shown).

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet Project Omnibus Survey, January 2-5, 2014. N= 1005 American adults ages 18 and older. Interviews were conducted on landlines and cell phones, in English and Spanish.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Patrol Officers recovered two stolen vehicles over the weekend. One stolen from unincorporated Hendry County, and the other from Palm Beach County. Both vehicles were abandoned on City streets. CPD Officers were able to track down the suspects from the 2nd vehicle and take them into custody.

- A number of traffic stops resulted in arrests over the weekend as well. Mostly due to suspended D/L, illegal drug possession, and DUI charges.
- The vehicle and pedestrian traffic in town has seemed to decrease for the past two Brown Sugar Festivals.
- Both Animal Control Officers are in training this week, so Code Enforcement Officers (and Don) have been handling their calls, including cats in the tree and cats on the side of the road.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1061** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 633** Complaints Investigated
 - 43** Traffic Citations
 - 19** Traffic Warnings
 - 33** Red Light Camera Violations
 - 24** Arrests
 - 56** Merchant Escorts
 - 19** Alarms Responded To
 - 9** City Ordinance Violations
 - 38** New Code Enforcement Violations Filed
 - 9** Rental Inspections Conducted
 - 9** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- **Mosquito Control:** Two of the four trap counts are holding at a reasonable range of 100 or less. However, two traps were above that threshold and we anticipate a ground treatment by the end of the week.
- **Street Maintenance:** (1) 220 feet of sidewalk was replaced on east Arcade. (2) The pot hole patrol was out this week. If you see a pot hole, please, call Public Works at 983-1471 and report it. (3) Culvert failures caused two small sink holes that required repairs on east Del Rio. (4) Staff poured the pad for the ATHEY Wagon on Wednesday. Delivery and set up are scheduled for Monday morning. (5) Staff cut up and removed a very large section of an "Elderly Oak" off of East Royal Palm Ave. "Heart Rot" caused the tree to almost split in half. Because the tree is now unstable, staff will severely cut the tree back to get a few more years out of it.
- **Landscaping:** (1) A Florida Rose bed was planted and twelve Dwarf Alamanda hanging baskets were hung at the Golf Course this week. (2) Public Works Director Scheffler met with two civic clubs this week to discuss the Civic Park rebuild. Both clubs were very responsive and encouraged by the presentation and were invited to participate in the project. Anyone interested in helping either monetarily or with your time and labor, please call Sean at 983-1471.
- **Building Maintenance:** (1) Fans and light kits for the Library were picked up on Monday. Once these items are installed, the lighting renovation project will be complete.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- CHS Boys Tiger Baseball team will play the "Alumni" Friday May 8th at 7:00 p.m. on Stalls Field at Sugarland Sports Complex. Come out and see the "OLD" take on the "NEW".

- The pressure washing of the buildings and deck at the James Mason Pool in Harlem have begun this week. The diatom filters at the James Mason Pool have been replaced. Both the C.S. Mott Pool and the James Mason Pool passed water quality DOH inspections. Our time-goal to open both pools is Memorial Day weekend Saturday May 23rd.
- CIT and LIT applications are available at the Youth Center and must be returned by May 22nd at 5:00 p.m. to the Youth Center.
- Clewiston Recreation's "Turf Management" plan for Sugarland Sports Complex began last week and all the "Game fields" were treated for emergent invasive vegetation. The second round of chemical applications will take place next weekend.
- Softball Boot Camp and Showcase at Sugarland Sports Complex on Memorial Day weekend has been confirmed! Approximately 75 players will participate in the 2 day showcase and stay overnight in America's Sweetest Town! We are EXCITED to welcome our guests!
- Negotiations are continuing and a "Host Application" has been submitted with Challenge Sports to host a 2 - 3 day national qualifying 3V3 Soccer Tournament in Clewiston at Sugarland Sports Complex during the summer.
- If you are interested in participating in an adult men's and co-ed softball league this spring, an adult co-ed volleyball league in the early summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- The Clewiston Spray Pad has "NEW" operating hours; the Splash Pad will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - noon and Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- ZUMBA at the Youth Center on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 p.m. Contact Tanya (our Certified Instructor) directly at (914) 338-6577
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- For the past four months, the City of Clewiston has recorded the lowest residential electric rate (1,000 Kwh category) among Florida Municipal Electric Association members. The reports are available at the following link http://publicpower.com/pdf/rates/2015/2015_march_rates-c.pdf
- The Electric crew continued red light and crosswalk maintenance this week and made street light repairs. The feed to the Wastewater Treatment Plant was repaired after fuses were blown due to an Osprey. Tree trimming continues in preparation of hurricane season.
- A banner was hung for Hospital Week.
- Water/Sewer crew repaired the lift station on West Sugarland Circle and changed out pumps at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Several water breaks were repaired this week.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.

- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.
- **ONLINE UTILITY PAYMENT AVAILABLE!** Payments can be made by credit or debit card. You can also review your account activity, consumption history and request certain work orders. You can register your account by visiting our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov and click on the link at the bottom of the page or by going to <https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl>.